

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to update the references to various patent applications contained therein. Entry of these amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

The title of the application has been changed.

Further to Applicants' election of claims 1-19, claims 20-23 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims (or to any other subject matter supported by the original disclosure) prior to the termination of proceedings in this application or in any continuing application based thereon.

As requested, a new Figure 3B has been added to show camera unit 304 remotely located from the base unit as set forth in the claims. In addition to original claims 4 and 14, support for new Figure 3B may be found, for example, in the description beginning at page 10, line 14. Thus, no new matter has been added. Also, Figure 3 (now relabeled as Figure 3A) has been changed to show a slot 312 in the base unit 302 for receiving camera unit 304 as set forth in the claims. In addition to original claims 7 and 17, support for this change to Figure 3 may be found, for example, in the description beginning at page 10, line 4. Thus, here again, no new matter has been added. The specification has been amended to reflect the addition of Figure 3B and the changes to Figure 3.

Reconsideration of the objection to Figures 6-8 is respectfully requested. A microphone is shown, for example, in Figures 4 and 9 and it is believed that its inclusion in the mechanical-type drawings in Figures 6-8 is unnecessary.

As requested, claim 1 has been amended to change the semi-colon in line 3 to a comma. Consequently, withdrawal of the objection to claims 1-9 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 8, 10, 13 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by either Tanaka *et al.* U.S. Patent No. 6,120,379 or Tanaka *et al.* U.S. Patent No. 6,540,615. Applicants traverse this rejection. First, while the office action contends that the

Tanaka *et al.* patents disclose each feature of claims 1, 8, 10, 13 and 18, the statement of the rejection contains no specific references to the text of the Tanaka *et al.* patents in support of this contention. Second, while not acquiescing in the rejection, independent claims 1 and 10 have been amended to describe that the digital camera accessory comprises a base unit and a camera unit. The base unit comprises a receiver for receiving video images and a connector for connection to a video game machine. The camera unit is selectively detachable from the base unit so that the camera unit is remotely locatable relative to the base unit. The camera unit comprises an image sensor and a transmitter for transmitting video images captured by the image sensor. The Tanaka *et al.* patents disclose a removable game machine cartridge that includes a camera for capturing images that can, for example, be displayed on a display of the game machine. However, there is no disclosure of a digital camera accessory for a game machine which comprises a base unit and a camera unit and wherein, among other things, the camera unit is remotely locatable relative to the base unit. Accordingly, the Tanaka *et al.* patents cannot anticipate the subject matter of claims 1 and 10. *See, e.g., Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) ("A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.")

Claim 8 depends from claim 1 and claims 13 and 18 depend from claim 10. These claims likewise cannot be anticipated by the Tanaka *et al.* patents.

Claims 2, 4-7, 11 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being "obvious" over the Tanaka *et al.* patents in view of Parulski *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,159). Claims 4, 5, 14 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and thus the rejection with respect to these claims is moot. Parulski *et al.* discloses an electronic system that includes a transmission mechanism for sending image data to selected receiver units. Specifically, Parulski *et al.* discloses a "clip-on" electronic camera module 10 coupled to a pen-based computer 12 that includes a radio frequency transmitter module 14 including an antenna. Among other things, Parulski *et al.* fails to disclose or suggest a digital camera accessory comprising a base unit and a camera unit as claimed. Consequently, even assuming for the sake of argument that Parulski *et al.* were properly combinable with the Tanaka *et al.* patents, the

subject matter of claims 2, 6, 7, 11, 16 and 17 (which depend from either claim 1 or claim 10) would not have resulted.

The office action alleges that receivers A, B, and C in Figure 1 of Parulski *et al.* constitute "base" units. However, among other things, even assuming that these receivers are argued to include receivers for receiving video images, there is no disclosure or suggestion that these receivers include a connector for connection to a game machine or that the camera unit is selectively detachable from these receivers. Accordingly, these receivers cannot constitute the claimed base unit.

Claims 3, 9, 12, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being "obvious" over the Tanaka *et al.* patents in view of Fukuoka (U.S. Patent No. 5,754,227). Claims 3 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and thus the rejection with respect to these claims is moot. Fukuoka discloses a digital electronic camera having an external input/output interface through which the camera may be monitored and controlled. The camera includes a card connector 17 for receiving an input/output card 15 which has a communication line 24 connected thereto. The I/O card allows images, audio and control information to be transmitted into and out of the camera. Fukuoka fails to disclose or suggest a digital camera accessory comprising a base unit and a camera unit as claimed. Consequently, even assuming for the sake of argument that Fukuoka were properly combinable with the Tanaka *et al.* patents, the subject matter of claims 9 and 19 (which depend from claim 1 and claim 10, respectively) would not have resulted.

The pending claims were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-8 of Tanaka *et al.* U.S. Patent No. 6,540,615 taken alone and in combination with Parulski *et al.* or Fukuoka. Reconsideration of these rejections in view of the amendments to the pending claims is respectfully requested.

New claims 24-54 have been added. The subject matter of these new claims is fully supported by the original disclosure and no new matter is added. Independent claim 24 is directed to a digital camera accessory for a display system which includes a first unit removably attachable to the display system and comprising receiver circuitry for receiving transmitted images. The digital camera accessory also includes a second unit removably attachable to the first unit, the second unit comprising an image sensor and transmitter circuitry for transmitting

images captured by the image sensor. For reasons similar to those advanced above, Applicants submit that the applied references do not teach or suggest the subject matter of this claim. Claims 25-40 depend from claim 24 and are also believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 41 is similar to claim 24 and specifies that the receiver circuitry receives wirelessly transmitted images and the transmitter circuitry wirelessly transmits images captured by the image sensor. This claim is also believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 42 is directed to a digital camera accessory for a display system which comprises a base unit removably attachable to the display system via an opening formed in a housing of the display system into which the base unit is at least partially insertable, and a camera unit removably attachable to the base unit via an opening formed in a housing of the base unit into which the camera unit is at least partially insertable. Receiver circuitry of the base unit receives images transmitted from the camera unit when the base unit is attached to the display system and the camera unit is detached from the base unit and located remotely with respect thereto. Applicant respectfully submits that the applied references do not teach or suggest the subject matter of this claim.

Independent claim 43 is directed to a video game system comprising two or more video game machines each of which comprises a digital camera and communication circuitry for connecting to a communication channel to which one or more other video game machines are connectable. Images captured by the digital cameras of the two or more video game machines are communicated over the communication channel so that each video game machine displays images captured by the digital cameras of the other video game machines. No such system is taught or suggested by the applied references and claim 41 is therefore believed to be allowable. Claims 44-52 depend from claim 41 and are also believed to be allowable.

Claim 53 is directed to a video game machine including communication circuitry configured to receive images transmitted from a first remote source and audio transmitted from a second, different remote source, wherein the video game machine displays the received images on a display device while outputting the received audio via at least one speaker. This claim is based on, for example, the disclosure beginning at page 24, line 19. The applied references do not teach or suggest such an arrangement and thus claim 50 is believed to be allowable.

Independent claim 54 is directed to an accessory for a display system which includes a base unit comprising receiver circuitry for receiving wirelessly transmitted data, and a detecting unit removably attachable to the base unit. The detecting unit comprises a detector and transmitter circuitry for wirelessly transmitting data detected by the detector. The receiving circuitry of the base unit receives data transmitted from the detecting unit when the base unit is attached to the display system and the detecting unit is detached from the base unit and located remotely with respect thereto. The applied references do not teach or suggest the subject matter of claim 54.

Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and action to that end is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain to be resolved, the Examiner is urged to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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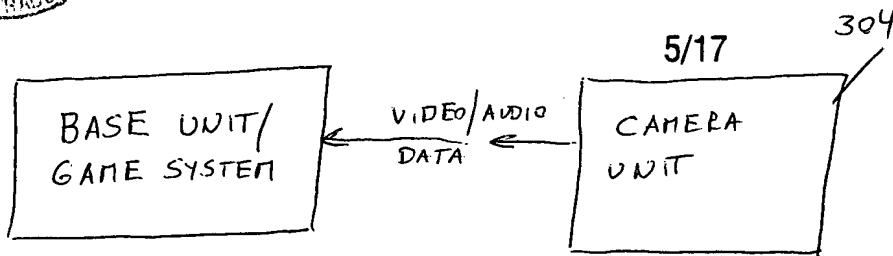


Fig. 3B

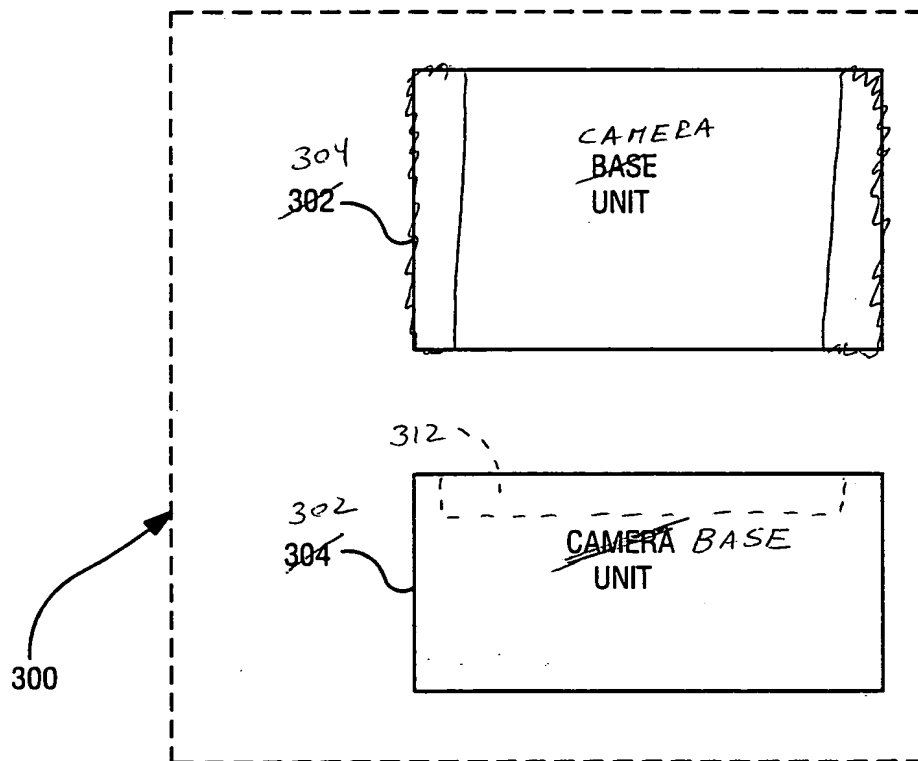


Fig. 3A